similar types and technologies within the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Record Production of Tobacco

712. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a record production of 100 million kg. of tobacco is expected this year; and

(b) what steps Government are taking to tic up export arrangements so as to prevent glut in tobacco market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) and (b) To avoid situation of glut in the market the Tobacco Board has authorised a crop size of only 103 million kg. of Virginia tobacco in Andhra Pradesh this year as against a crop size of 132.78 million kg. last year.

Government creates an environment conducive to export, but does not tie up export contracts itself, which is the role of the exporters.

FIEO complaint against S.I.L.S.

713. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Export organisations has complained about the inadequacy of the entitlement offered to Government recognised export houses, trading houses, star trading houses under the Special Import Licence Scheme; and

(b) if so, what action is being taken by Government on their representation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(d) Review of the Export and Import Policy is a continuous process and changes in the policy are made as and when considered necessary.

Increasing Country's Exports

714. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:
SHRI S.K.T. RAMCHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country's exports would seriously decline during the current year in comparison to the previous year; and

(b) if so, what are the estimated exports of the current year and what steps are proposed to be taken for increasing the exports so as to avoid crisis in the balance of payment position?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Exports during April-Dec, 1992 amounted to US$ 13075 million registering an increase of 3.41% in dollar terms over the corresponding period of the previous year. The year 1992-93 is likley to end with exports registering an increase of 5% to 6% in dollar terms over the previous year.

Offer made by Vietnam Trade Delegation

715. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI RAMCHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI MD. SALIM:
SHRI ASHIS SEN:
SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARl:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vietnam Trade Delegation offered rice, silk, iron and coal at cheaper rates in exchange of